



ANNOUNCEMENT
85th ANNUAL NEW JERSEY FFA
SPRING CAREER DEVELOPMENT
EVENTS

NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION, INC.
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
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January 2009

To: New Jersey FFA Chapter Advisors/Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Teachers

From: Erin Noble, State FFA Specialist

C: Nancy J. Trivette, Program Leader, Agricultural Education

Re: Spring Career Development Events
Thursday, April 23, 2008 – 9:30 am – 1:30 pm
Cook Campus, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

WHAT DO SPRING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS INVOLVE?

Floriculture, Nursery/Landscape, Environmental and Natural Resource Management, Agricultural Mechanics and Agricultural Sales Events will be conducted using the rules, judging forms and references available in the Career Development Events Handbook 2006-2010. Copies are available on the Chapter Resource Guide, CD-Rom and on the National FFA website (<http://www.ffa.org/programs/cde/index.html>). Students should be prepared in all event sections.

The 2009 National Event Themes are:

- ✍ Agricultural Mechanics – Plant Production Systems
- ✍ Agricultural Sales – Agriculture Mechanics

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Students and teachers from all schools with Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs are encouraged to attend and participate in the educational activities provided. FFA activities are integral to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources instruction.

Teachers are responsible for supervision of their students throughout the day and are expected to help conduct and proctor events. All students attending **must** participate in the Career Development Events provided. Provisions for observation will not be made.

WHO CAN COMPETE?

1. Contestants must be currently enrolled in an approved agricultural education course.
2. Students who have been members of a first place official team in a state event and have participated at the highest level for that event may not judge again in that particular event.
3. Four members may participate in the Nursery/Landscape, and Agriculture Mechanics Events. The scores of the three highest individual's constitute the score of the official team. In Ag Sales, Floriculture, and Environmental/Natural Resources a four-member team is required.

HOW DO I PRE-REGISTER?

Pre-registration and payment for all chapters participating in Spring Career Developments is requested by **Friday, March 20th**. Please submit completed registration to ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us. If names cannot be pre-registered, *please pre-register with the school name*. A minimum of five teams is necessary to run any state Career Development Event.

Registration fees are used to pay Career Development Event expenses and to provide awards to FFA members. Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, State of New Jersey with "FFA Spring CDE" in the memo line and send to the Office of Agricultural Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625-0330. Registration will not be accepted any later than two weeks prior to the event. Please be prepared to pay prior to or at the registration desk at the Round House.

(Remember, your payment is non-refundable since your registration is what we use to pay for event expenses. NOTE: The only exception, according to New Jersey's FFA Conference Refund Policy, is a doctor's note or proof of death in the immediate family along with a cover letter explaining the circumstance. This must be sent to the state executive board within one month of the event.)

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The cost is \$36.00 per team, or \$9.00 per person (maximum 4-team members); registration fee is assessed per contest for each chapter participating. Please pay this fee at the time of pre-registration. Make checks payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey. In the memo area of the check, please identify "FFA Spring CDE". **CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

WHERE DO I PARK ON EVENT DAY?

Observe Rutgers parking regulations. Parking along side of the road near the barns or Round House constitutes a traffic hazard. Please do not park at the Round House.

WHEN AND WHERE DO I REGISTER ON APRIL 23RD?

Events will **START PROMPTLY at 10:00 am as SCHEDULED**. One teacher from each chapter will pay registration fees and confirm pre-registrations for the teams at the Round House headquarters on College Farm Road **before 9:45 am**. Your teams must be verified at the roundhouse in order to qualify for competition. Please plan to arrive on campus in a timely manner. Arriving at 10:00 or later does not provide your students with a fair opportunity and may result in them missing a component of their event.

WHERE DO TEAMS NEED TO BE BY 10:00 AM?

Official teams will be at the event locations at the starting time. CDE Coordinators have the right to disqualify teams that arrive late and you might not be able to make up missed components of the event. A timely start helps make an efficient finish. Please respect other participants by having your students to the event prior to the start time. **All contestants' registrations must be confirmed by advisors on the day of the event.**

1. Floriculture Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.
Labor Education Building – Auditorium, 50 Labor Center Way
2. Agricultural Sales Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Labor Education Building – Room 130, 131, and 166, 50 Labor Center Way
3. Nursery/ Landscape Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Turf Farm, Ryders Lane
4. Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Turf Farm, Ryders Lane
5. Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Horticulture Farm 1, Ryders Lane

HOW ARE EVENTS SCORED?

1. Dues paying FFA members make up the team score. If a contestant is found not to be a member, then his/her score will be dropped from the team score, thus causing contest teams to be re-ranked for recognition.
2. The chapter with the highest team score in each event will have the opportunity to represent the New Jersey FFA Association at the National FFA Career Development Event in Indianapolis, IN in October 2009 and the Eastern States Regional FFA Career Development Events in Springfield, Massachusetts in September 2009. Team members must be accompanied to these events by advisor(s).

WHEN WILL WE KNOW RESULTS?

Official results will be available to all chapters/schools via email and the state Agricultural Education website.

DO NOT CALL THE STATE OFFICE FOR RESULTS.

WHAT STUDENT RECOGNITION IS THERE?

Only dues-paid members and chartered chapters may compete for awards and for further competition. Non-members and non-chartered chapters may participate, however, they are not eligible for trips, trophies, certificates or banners. Registration fees may be higher for non-members to cover costs.

1. A banner or plaque will be awarded to the first place team in each state level event at the annual State Convention.
2. Medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place individuals overall in each event and certificates will be awarded to the top five (5) students who excel in practical parts of the events.

3. A Career Development Event Sweepstakes Award will be presented to the New Jersey team that places the highest in National Competition. This includes all National FFA Events and Land Judging.

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

1. No individuals from the same school/chapter may talk, confer or judge together. Penalty will be loss of score for that section of the event or disqualification for the event. Event coordinator has the authority to make disqualifications.
2. Participants are NOT allowed to use (or have visible) electronic devices during the event, unless for medical reasons or a portion of the event requires usage. This includes cell phones, iPods, mp3 players, etc. Participants will be allowed to use calculators, if specified for that event; however, cell phone calculators are not permitted! Failure to adhere to these rules can result in disqualification.
3. All individuals participating will judge in a cooperative manner following the rules set forth by the event coordinator.
4. No school/chapter will use Cook Campus or Delaware Valley College for the training of teams. **Penalty will be disqualification.**
5. Four members may participate in each event; the score of the three highest constitutes the official team for Nursery Landscape and Agricultural Mechanics. The fourth member automatically becomes the team alternate. Agricultural Sales, Floriculture and Environmental and Natural Resources require four members to compete and event scores will be based on all four members. See National Career Development website for clarification, <http://www.ffa.org/programs/cde/index.html>.
6. There will be no separate alternate teams.
7. **A student may not compete in more than one event during FFA Career Development Events. A student cannot compete in more than one event at the National Competition each year. This includes public speaking, parliamentary procedure and all non-leadership team events.**
8. The \$25 National level competition fee and \$10 Eastern States competition fee will be paid by the competing school.
9. If a student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP) indicates a need for assistance during a career development event, the school is responsible for providing the reader or scribe. Please identify the name of the student, their need, and the name of the assistant in your registration e-mail (**due March 20**).

The following types of assistance will be allowed, if indicated in an IEP:

- ? Reader - The reader will assist a student by reading out loud to them any written instructions for the CDE, exam questions, etc. without providing any interpretation of the questions/information or helping that student come to a conclusion.
- ? Scribe - The scribe will provide assistance to a student by writing down information such as the answer to a question. The scribe will not provide a student with direction or additional information that would help that student solve a problem or come to a conclusion.

In order to conduct a state level career development event efficiently, **no additional time will be provided** to a student to complete portions of that career development event.

WHAT SHOULD MY STUDENTS WEAR AND HOW SHOULD THEY ACT?

1. All Contestants will abide by the FFA Code of Ethics. This includes:
 - a. FFA jacket or a nametag with name, school and chapter worn in all FFA events.
 - b. Neat and safe clothing is required to promote a positive image for the FFA.
 - c. Outdoor events (e.g. Nursery/Landscape) will be held rain or shine.
2. Please be prepared and dress accordingly for such weather conditions.
3. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be disqualified and asked to leave the event area.
4. Contestants should also be familiar with the proper use of the FFA jacket (i.e. members never smoke while wearing the FFA jacket). Advisors should review the Official Manual and/or Student Handbook with students regarding Code of Ethics, Official Dress, and proper use of the FFA jacket.
5. The use of ANY tobacco product is not permitted at any FFA event including career development events.

WHEN AND WHERE DO WE EAT?

The schedule is continuous from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. You may bring lunch or plan to purchase lunch at the Cook Campus Student Center or at the Food Science Cafeteria.

AS A TEACHER AND FFA ADVISOR, WHAT IS MY ROLE?

The support and assistance of teachers and FFA advisors is vital for the success of career development events. This assistance includes, serving as proctors or timekeepers for components of the event, scoring and double checking papers, and helping as needed. You will also serve as an adult chaperone for the students in your event, as their advisor may be assisting at a different event location.

Tentative event assignments are provided below. In the event that you are unable to assist where indicated, please notify Erin Noble at erin.noble@ag.state.nj.us immediately. Two weeks prior to the event, confirmation emails will be sent to you reminding you of where your assistance is requested.

After you have dropped your students at their event locations, please report immediately to your assigned event location and sign in with the career development event coordinator or official. They will let you know where your help is most crucial for the event.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT ASSIGNMENTS (*Tentative*)

AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS - 10 AM at Turf Farm, Ryders Lane

Mr. Justin Noble, Event Coordinator

Mr. Bill Dickson and Mr. Joe Clark, Event Assistants

Mr. Worth Christian	Written Exam Proctor
Mr. Mike Hlubik	Problem Solving
Mr. Byron Nolan	Problem Solving
Mr. Joel Rudderow	Identification
Mr. Greg Babbitt	Identification
Mr. Bryan Leh	Scorer
Mr. Greg Zotti	Scorer
Ms. Jennifeur Wilson	Proctor
Mr. Bill Hilgendorff	Proctor

AG SALES - 10 AM at Labor Education Center – Rooms 130, 131, and 166, 50 Labor Center Way

Mr. Bill Walker, Event Coordinator

Mrs. Denise Emmons	Sales Presentation Proctor/ Scorer
Mr. Mike Griffith	Written Exam Proctor/ Scorer
Mrs. Cheryl Lowe	Scorer

ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCE - 10 AM, Hort Farm 1

Mr. Rich Belcher, Event Coordinator

Mr. Dave Ritter	Proctor
Mr. Hans Toft	Scorer
Mr. Mike Butler	Scorer
Ms. Nicole Russo	Scorer
Ms. Patty Thorne	Scorer
Mr. Dave Pedde	Scorer
Ms. Kim Desrochers	Scorer
Mr. Keith Dannucci	Scorer
Mrs. Kim Szulecki	Scorer

FLORICULTURE - 10 AM at Labor Education Center - Auditorium, 50 Labor Center Way

Mrs. Deb Moyer, Event Coordinator

Ms. Bonnie Baldasare	Proctor
Ms. Sherry Bolton	Proctor
Mr. John Petronglo	Proctor
Mr. Gary Nelson	Proctor
Mrs. Laurie Neyhart	Scorer
Ms. Marilyn Patterson	Scorer

Ms. Lisa Ann Chernigovets Scorer

FLORICULTURE (cont.)

Mr. Brian Burns Scorer

Mr. Frank Yesalavich Scorer

Mr. Mike Ridge Scorer

Ms. Peggy Grady Scorer

Mrs. Cheryl Alfonse Scorer

Ms. Robin McLean Scorer

Mrs. Kris Guttadora Scorer

NURSERY/LANDSCAPE - 10 AM Turf Farm, Ryders Lane

Mrs. Jan Marie Traynor, Event Coordinator

Ms. JoAnn Sopchak Identification Proctor

Mr. John Neyhart Practicum Proctor

Mr. Shawn McKay Practicum Proctor

Ms. Leslie Bishop Exam Proctor/ Scorer

Mrs. Sara Cobb Scorer

Mr. Brian Martin Scorer

Mrs. Nan Hamilton Scorer

Mrs. Nichol Carroll Scorer

Mrs. Cindy VonThun Scorer